

Uncle Sam Sets Income Tax Net To Catch Profiteering Landlord

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire]

WASHINGTON, Jan. 19.—Through the collection of taxes of 1919 incomes, the first step in which will be taken tomorrow, the government will wage war on profiteering landlords with "sweet revenge" in prospect for "the tenant who has had to dig deep into his earnings to pay a high rental in 1919."

First intimation of this new aspect came tonight in an announcement by Daniel C. Roper, commissioner of the bureau of internal revenue, that forms for making income tax returns which will be in the hands of all internal revenue collectors and ready for distribution tomorrow will contain a section providing that tenants shall include in their statements the amounts of rents paid and to whom it was paid. This information will be turned over to the department of justice to be used in its high cost of living campaign.

"The tenants are doing the driving and holding the whip," Mr. Roper said. "Profiteering landlords will be held to the straight and narrow path in the payment of their income taxes. Revenge is sweet to the tenant who has had to dig deep into his earnings to pay a high rental in 1919. Gathering his family around him, he takes his scratchy pen in hand and with the last drop of ink in the bottle informs the commissioner of internal revenue that he, Bill Brown, of the Hallroom apartments, paid to John Smith, 13 Profiteer avenue, \$1,200 for his three-room flat in 1919."

"By gathering these reports from all the Bill Browns who are running themselves ragged to pay their rent, the internal revenue bureau will have all the information necessary to see that the profiteer John Smith pay proper tax or face prosecution."

While the work of collecting the income taxes will be just as heavy this year as it was in 1919, the government will receive less revenue. Instead of collecting six per cent on incomes between \$2,000 and \$4,000 from married persons as done last year, only four per cent will be collected this time. Single persons will get an exemption of \$1,000 as was provided under the previous revenue law. Incomes above \$4,000, the normal tax will be eight per cent instead of twelve per cent, as last year, but surtax begins operation at \$1,000 and continues upward until the government will assess 60 per cent of annual incomes above \$1,000,000.

Internal revenue officials will send income tax forms to all persons who paid taxes last year. Others who are taxable must apply to the collectors for them. Mr. Roper warned that there would be unswerving enforcement of the revenue laws and that "punishment will be meted out to tenants 'without fear or favor' this year, since all persons should be familiar with the law by this time."

Returns and at least one-fourth of the amount due must be in the hands of the internal revenue collectors by March 15.

BATTLE OF POLITICS



Principles in the Caillaux trial. Left, Mme. Caillaux and the man on trial. Right (top to bottom), Malvy, the banished minister of interior, with whom Caillaux is charged with having dealt; M. Demange, formerly defender of Dreyfus, now defending Caillaux; Premier Clemenceau, chief accuser of Caillaux.

PARIS.—France is preparing for the greatest battle of politics, policies, intrigues and attacks ever experienced in the nation's history.

Joseph Caillaux, former premier and minister of finance, charged with alleged treasonable relations with the enemy, will come to trial before the senate on January 14. Then will begin revelations that threaten to expose either the secret intrigues of the present Clemenceau ministry and the wrong done a peace loving and peace-seeking leader, or the danger that confronted the French people during the Caillaux term of office.

Intertwined in this great political tangle is a story of love that ended with the murder of Gaston Calmette, editor of the Figaro, by Caillaux's first wife, in March, 1914.

Caillaux was arrested in January, 1918. When brought before the senatorial commission investigating the charges of treason against him, he attacked the permanent officials of the French foreign office as having supplied information to his enemies in their campaign against him.

His opponents, however, point out his relationship with Bolo Pasha, convicted later for treason, and with Malvy, the banished minister. They intend to show papers pointing to

Caillaux's efforts for bringing about an early peace with Germany, "thus encouraging the hopes of our enemies."

THIS COMB HAD HOLE IN END, SAYS WITNESS, AND BLUE BARREL

Housing conditions in this city were largely responsible for the appearance of Ed. Bustamonte in the police court yesterday afternoon on a charge of flourishing a deadly weapon. John West, negro, was plaintiff in the case, but testimony showed that neither of the principals was directly interested in the altercation which led to his arrest of Bustamonte.

According to the testimony, Harry and George Johnson, negroes, were renting a place on East Jefferson street from E. E. Gomez, a Mexican. When the landlord notified his tenants that he would have to have more money for rental on his place, the Johnsons made an unsuccessful effort to find another place. As they refused to pay more rent and couldn't find another house, the altercation between landlord and tenant grew more bitter as the days went by and the Johnsons failed to vacate.

The climax came Saturday when Gomez removed the electrical fixtures from the house rented by the Johnsons. John West, a nephew of the Johnsons, was chopping wood in the back yard at the time. The first barrage of a fierce verbal battle went over his head and failed to affect Ed. Bustamonte, the other principal in the case which figured in police court. However, both were soon drawn into the Gomez-Johnson battle and when West fired a few rounds of tongue ammunition, Bustamonte quickly drew an object from his hip pocket and made a dash for the negro. West retreated behind Mrs. Georgia Johnson.

"He cursed my mother, and I drew a comb on him," asserted Bustamonte when defending himself in police court. "They ain't no comb got a hole in the end of it and a blue, glinty barrel," retorted West.

"How large was the hole you saw?" asked Judge Thomas.

"When I first seen it, it looked big enough to crawl through," West answered.

Several other witnesses testified they had seen a revolver in the hand of Bustamonte when he made the rush at West, and Judge Thomas found the defendant guilty, but deferred sentence.

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(Washington Star)

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